

**REMARKS**

This application is a continuation of U.S. patent application serial no. 09/900,651 ("the parent application").

The specification has been amended to provide the required cross-referencing under 35 U.S.C. §120. The specification has also been amended to correct several minor typographical errors which were entered during prosecution by Examiner's Amendment in the parent application.

Claims 1-11 have been canceled. Claims 15, 17-19, 24 and 26 have been amended to incorporate amendments made during prosecution of the corresponding claims of the parent application.

Entry and favorable consideration of the requested amendments is respectfully requested. No new matter has been added by any amendment herein.

Upon entry of this Preliminary Amendment, claims 12-26 are pending. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 12-26 are in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

The Assistant Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee which may be due in connection with this communication to Deposit Account No. 23-1703.

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Respectfully submitted,

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